

rulers, wherein the both ends of the reference ruler are cylindrically rounded so as to match up to the respective rounded ends of the first and second rulers when each ends of the first or second rulers are moved along with corresponding pivotal axis, and...

This application is a PCT national phase application. Applicant believes that the Examiner may have examined the International Application as filed, overlooking the amendments made under Article 34. Applicant filed a document entitled "PCT Article 34 Amendment Summary" on the filing date of the application, along with a copy of the Article 34 Amendment and Remarks in the Japanese language and an English translation of the amendment and remarks. The Article 34 Amendment made changes to the paragraph of the starting at page 3 line 21 of the specification, and also amended claim 1, replacing "at least one of" with "both" in original claim 1. Applicant requests that these amendments now be entered.

Applicant believes that the Article 34 amendment is sufficient to obviate the 103(a) rejections made in the November 24, 2003 Office action based on Johnson (US2866270) and Schön (US4527341). By having pivots 141a and 141b both be moveable, the ruler may be transitioned between a configuration for measuring outer corner angles (see Fig. 12a and Fig. 9a) and a configuration for measuring inner corner angles (see Fig. 8a and 11a). Neither Johnson nor Schön, nor any other of the cited references disclose such a ruler with two movable pivots, and consequently cannot be used to measure both inner and outer corner angles in the same manner. Applicant refers the Examiner to remarks made to this point in the amendment and remarks filed September 5, 2003 in this regard. Applicant also refers the Examiner to the convenient advantage of the measuring of half angles of both inner and

outer corners using devices made according to the claimed configuration, also discussed in the amendment and remarks filed September 5, 2003.

In view of the above, applicant requests reconsideration of the Office action dated November 24, 2003, and requests that claims 1-11 be allowed. The Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned if any issues remain that may be resolved by a telephonic interview.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia 22313, on March 24, 2004.


George Painter

Date of Signature: March 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,
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